



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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## **Programming Coordinating Committee Minutes**

May 9, 2007

DuPage County Conference Room  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois

**Members Present:** Rita Athas-Chair, Mark Avery, Jack Darin (by phone), Beth Dever, Jack Groner, Marilyn Michelini, Raul Raymundo, Steve Schlickman, Dan Shea and Holly Smith

**Absent:** Anthony Calderone, Calvin Jordon, John Greuling and Nigel Telman

### **1.0 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by Rita Athas.

### **2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

### **3.0 Unified Work Program (UWP)**

Patricia Berry described for the Committee how the UWP is developed every year. She mentioned the composition of the UWP Committee and how they used a three part process of core, supplemental core and competitive projects to propose a final program. The total program comes to about \$18.5 million with CMAP getting about 65% of the funds. The other agencies funded are the Council of Mayors, city of Chicago, RTA, Metra, Pace and CTA. With this being the first year for CMAP to be involved in the process, we are going to have both the CMAP board and the Policy Committee consider the proposed program. The Transportation Committee will also have a review of the program at their May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Seglin, with Mr. Groner, brought up the fact that a city proposal to conduct planning for projects within the CREATE Program was deemed not eligible by the Federal Highway Administration. Following a discussion by the Committee members and others, it was suggested that a recommendation be made at the Board meeting to send a letter to FHWA questioning the decision to not allow these projects to be funded through the UWP. It was moved by Jack Groner, seconded by Marilyn Michelini to recommend to the CMAP Board

that they transmit a letter to FHWA expressing their concern regarding FHWA's decision not to allow UWP funding for planning CREATE projects. The motion passed unanimously.

Following that action, Mark Avery moved, seconded by Steve Schlickman to recommend the proposed FY08 Unified Work Program to the CMAP Board. The motion passed unanimously.

### **3.0 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program**

Ross Patronsky of the CMAP staff provided the committee with some background information about the CMAQ program, including the purpose of the program, eligibility of projects, and how the funding has been allocated since the inception of the program. A discussion ensued regarding the amount of allocated but unspent funding (approximately \$150 million) and the reasons for that unspent balance. It was explained that until the FY07 cycle, all phases of a project were funded from the current fiscal year allocation. That meant that funding targeted for the construction phase of a project may not be needed for three or four years. This contributed significantly to the unspent balance. Staff has taken measures to change that process and program funds anticipated in the out years.

Staff committed to presenting to the Programming Committee the recommended program when it is developed.

### **5.0 Facility Planning Areas**

Dawn Thompson expanded on the presentation she made to the Programming Committee at their last meeting. She distributed several documents describing the process for wastewater planning and management in northeastern Illinois. She also covered the short and long term issues related to wastewater planning that the CMAP Board would need to address in the future. In the short term, the Board needs to replace NIPC's Water Resources Committee and decide whether Kendall County should be included in the FPA process for CMAP. Committee members recommended that staff meet with the appropriate officials in Kendall County in order to get their input on coming under the CMAP umbrella for the FPA process. Mr. Darin reported that the Environment and Natural Resources Committee has offered its services as a replacement for the NIPC Water Resources Committee in the FPA process. The Environment and Natural Resources Committee also recommended that Kendall County be included in CMAP's FPA process.

After some discussion, it was moved and seconded that the Programming Committee recommend to the CMAP Board that they continue the FPA process, name a committee to replace the Water Resources Committee and consider adding Kendall County to the process. Staff will prepare an issue paper addressing the advantages and disadvantages to these actions.

### **6.0 Urban Partnership Agreement**

Tom Murtha of the CMAP staff provided the committee with some background information on the application process for the USDOT Urban Partnership Agreement. The

region is preparing an application under this program. He explained the high level of congestion throughout northeastern Illinois and how the partnership has four major elements: congestion pricing; increased transit, telecommuting or demand management strategies; and, the use of technology or intelligent transportation system innovations.

The proposal for northeast Illinois focuses on three areas: the Central Business District, the I-90 Corridor including both the Skyway and the Northwest Tollway, and the Southwest Corridor, including the Stevenson Expressway. Each of these corridors has a number of improvements proposed ranging from congestion pricing to transit expansions.

Mr. Murtha then explained the funding requested from various programs within the Partnership Agreement. It would not be likely that the region will receive the entire amount and a great deal of work, including possible enabling state legislation would be required before the process is complete. The committee members thanked staff for putting together the application.

**7.0 Other Business**

There was no other business for the Committee

**8.0 Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**9.0 Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2007.

**10.0 Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

*Don Kopec*

Staff Liaison

/dk

*Approved, with minor corrections, July 11, 2007*